

BAKER FOOLS THE NEWSPAPER MEN

Secretary Pulls Anti-Climax When Writers Are Expecting War Announcement.

Innocently enough, it is presumed, Secretary Baker "put one over" on the newspaper correspondents after the Cabinet meeting yesterday afternoon. About forty correspondents awaited some announcement regarding the unusually important meeting. Would there be an extra session of Congress immediately? Was a declaration of war planned? Was conflict regarded as inevitable?

These and other questions ran through the minds of the news writers, while the country awaited the story of the Cabinet session, which lasted for two hours.

The door of the Cabinet room opened. The epochal session was over. The correspondents flocked to that end of the White House corridor.

Secretary Lansing emerged. "Not a word," said he, gravely. Secretary Daniels came out. "Not a word," repeated he, gravely.

It looked serious, both from an international and a news writing viewpoint.

Tense Moment For Correspondents.

Then the Secretary of War stepped into the corridor. He held a sheet of paper in his hand. Secretary Baker beckoned toward the correspondents and a score responded. The impression passed along that the Secretary of War would make the announcement about the extra session of Congress and the possibility of war.

It was a tense moment, as they say in the melodramas, and the press association men made ready to "flash" their offices.

"I have here" said the Secretary of War—

Fast and deep breathing by the correspondents. Perhaps the nation stood on the brink of war, so the writers crowded closer about the brink, the same being, for the moment, the Secretary of War.

Then The Anti-Climax.

"I have here" said the Secretary, "a copy of a resolution adopted by the Council of National Defense thanking the railroads and the employees for getting together and preventing a strike."

There was a shuffling of feet on the outskirts of the crowd. Certain gentlemen assumed on the verge of leaving—as respectfully as possible. Certain gentlemen were forced to leave in order to pursue other Cabinet officers who were passing rapidly out of the doors of the Executive Offices and about to get away without being "interviewed" on the Cabinet meeting.

"I will read the resolution if you care to hear it," said Secretary Baker, "but some of you seem to be leaving."

Forty-eight hours ago the resolution of thanks might have been good news. But, it stood about as high as a trey spot in the international game yesterday afternoon, while everybody waited for a war announcement.

Pooled The Newspaper Men.

One of the news writers took the resolution of thanks, thanked the Secretary for it and hoped he would understand that the breakaway of his audience was due to the necessity of finding some member of the Cabinet who might give a hint about the real "story" of the day.

It is not believed Secretary Baker deliberately planned the anti-climax of the Cabinet meeting, but his beckoning hand, holding a thin sheet of paper, and his grave demeanor, certainly fooled the correspondents for a moment.

Nobody found out anything in particular from other members of the Cabinet, but they didn't all get away while Secretary Baker held the spotlight with the resolution of thanks.

ATHLETIC CLUB'S PLANS

Big Meeting Tomorrow Night Will Hear Architect's Report.

Hundreds of the members of Washington's new Athletic Club are expected to attend an open meeting to be held in the gold room of the Shoreham Hotel tomorrow night, which will be presided over by the president, J. Miller Kenyon. Plans for the club house will be explained by Frank P. Milburn, architect.

A number of important reports, including one on the arrangements to finance the project, will be made, and all the preliminaries disposed of preparatory to the beginning of the construction work.

WILSON ATTENDS THEATER.

President Wilson's first visit to the theater since Ambassador von Bernstorff was sent home, and the break with Germany came, was made last night. He attended the performance at B. F. Keith's. Accompanying him were Miss Margaret Wilson, Miss Helen Woodrow Bones, and Melville Clark.

The Presidential party received great applause on its entry. President Wilson, while often a visitor at Keith's, generally attends on Monday or Saturday.

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TUMULTY PRAISES WILSON'S PATIENCE

Asserts Text Books Will Tell of President's Justice and High Ideals.

NEWARK, N. J., March 21.—Secretary Tumulty, in an address at a dinner given in his honor last night, spoke of the "infinite patience and skillful hand" with which President Wilson is guiding the destiny of the nation.

"I wonder if you can realize how truly epochal is this period in which we are living," said Mr. Tumulty. "I wish I could discuss with you some phases of the international situation with which the Government at Washington has had to deal since the world war began. I wish that all of you and all Americans could know as I have been privileged to know with what infinite patience and skillful hand the silent and heavy laden man who, only a few years ago, served

you as governor has guided the destiny of the republic.

"No man can realize what he has done and is doing for the United States of America, for the world, for civilization and humanity. It is not a great thing to be secretary to the President, but it is a wonderful thing to be associated with a President like Woodrow Wilson. Some day a great historian will tell the story of what he has endured, of the problems he has met, of the scrupulous care and patience he has taken to preserve the rights of America and to keep free and open the processes of liberty. Children in the schools and young men in the colleges will read in the text books of the unsurpassed justice and high ideals of a practical statesman, who was raised up to direct the destiny of this nation in its most trying hour. We are too close to the world events of the last few years to appreciate them, to estimate justly the wonderful period in which we are living."

E. G. RATHBONE BANKRUPT.

Estes G. Rathbone, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General under President Harrison, filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in Wellsville, N. Y., yesterday. His liabilities were placed at \$115,306, and his assets at \$32,702. Rathbone, following the occupation of Cuba by the United States, was director of the Cuban postal.

SCHOOL SHOP BUSY ON 'DUMMY' SHELLS

Four-inch Cartridge Being Made By McKinley Manual Training Students.

The manufacture of "dummy" munitions at McKinley Manual Training School, presumably to ascertain the possible capabilities of the shop there, is engrossing the attention of the machine shop.

A four-inch cartridge, with brass base and steel nose, to be used in practice by navy training schools, is being made. Clarence W. Hecox, in charge of the machine shop, said today that while the "dummies" could be made there, they were not entirely suited to the type of machines.

Three Distinct Operations.

There are three distinct operations in the manufacture of a cartridge as turned out at the school. First, the wooden body is turned up. Next, the base and nose. The completed parts must then be assembled.

"With a type of shell or shrapnel

that requires but one operation," Mr. Hecox said, "a large amount of work could be done. I do not think, however, that the students could be relied on entirely to do all of the work. With the aid of several machinists, trained in the manufacture of munitions, much could be done."

Boys Much Interested.

It was said that if but one type of shell was given the school to make, the machines could be fitted for that alone.

Either army or navy shells or ordnance could be turned out in large quantities, Mr. Hecox said, after the machines had been especially set up for that purpose.

The boys who take the subject at the school were said to be intensely interested. They feel they are helping their country prepare for war, and are willing to give time to the work after school is over.

SALESMEN'S CLUB ELECTS

Newly Organized Association Completes Its Official Roster.

Officers and an executive committee of the newly organized Salesmanship Club of Washington were elected at a meeting last night in the Raleigh.

Gust G. Reiniger was chosen president; Claude Miller, first vice president; McCarthy Hanger, second vice president, and George A. Babcox was

elected secretary-treasurer. The following were placed on the executive committee: Max Flecher, William F. Gude, H. F. Mooney, E. C. Rogers, W. H. Snyder, Morris W.

Sheldon, J. C. De Villias, P. B. Anderson, and John M. Cherry. Dr. N. W. Shefferman spoke on the value of character analysis to the salesman.

Peruna Did Me More Good Than Two Years Under Doctor's Care



Mrs. O. D. Robinson, No. 36 St. Felix St., Brooklyn, N. Y., writes: "I have taken Peruna and it did me more good than all my two years treatment by special physicians."

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